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**2005243**

**ECEY6005/C**

**Sustainability in the  
Early Years:  
PART 1**



## DISCOVER.....



I like to spend a lot of time at the beach and playing in the sea with my siblings, but my recent visit to Ravenhill Park gave me a different view of the world. A serene oasis is hidden under towering trees and lush vegetation. The park's walking paths quickly became my favorite place to relax and take in the scenery away from the city's busy streets. The park is home to some animals, and as I walked through it, I loved the green vegetation and colorful flowers as well as watching the bird's fly. The John Muir Award has given me the opportunity to learn more about the park's ecosystems and the significance of conservation efforts in keeping them healthy for future generations. I want to spend more time here in the future, and I hope to do my part by contributing to conservation efforts.



## Discovery of the area.....

Ravenhill Park is a sensory delight with blooming flowers, verdant lawns, and the sounds of birds. It has inspired me to explore the natural world observing and learning about the interconnectedness of living things and the environment. It's a reminder that we have a responsibility to protect and preserve the ecosystem for future generations. The park's meandering trails and lush surroundings provide the perfect backdrop to witness the season of renewal. It is truly a gift to have such a vibrant and thriving natural world right in our own city.



## Explore.....

As I walked through the park, I was struck by the abundance of life that surrounded me. I specifically was attracted to the green vegetation and beautiful flowers and wanted to learn more about their existence. Birds chirped in the trees, worms crawled on various surfaces, and the smell of fresh grass filled the air. The park's carefully maintained gardens were bursting with color, providing a vital source of food and shelter for the local wildlife. My heart was full of gratitude as I left the park, having seen the beauty and variety of plants in the area.



## The main wildlife within the park.....

It was an amazing memorable adventure. When I was in the park, I spotted the magpie and got a close look at it and captured it in my pictures. Their striking black and white plumage was remarkable. The experience of seeing it in its habitat was magical, and I was thankful for the opportunity.



black-billed magpie

For lovers of dogs, the park is a beautiful place with plenty of green space to have outdoor fun and exercise with the dogs. The park also has dogs with which visitors play and take pictures.





The paintings and art at the park reflect the beautiful nature around the park and how much its value. Several birds are drawn on the trees they are mostly found while flowers are painted on the walls of the park.



Some trees also acted as habitats for small animals like worms and ants. Amazingly, I also discovered some **Epiphyte** and climbing plants which grew on some trees.

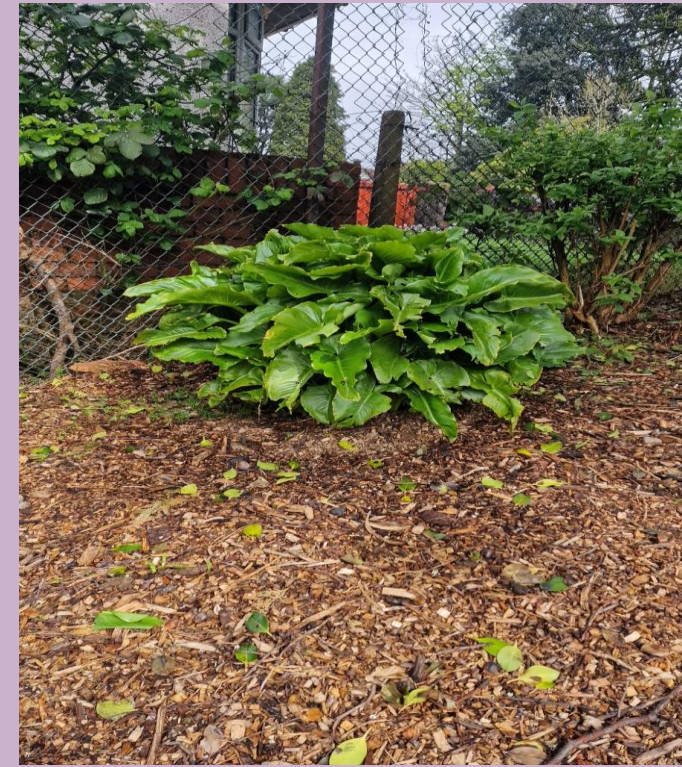


Walking around the park, I also realised that some worms stayed in wet areas with less vegetation and unattended areas, especially under tall trees. It was also evident that some destroyed the beautiful flowers. The abandoned areas were not attractive and would need rehabilitation.



## Conserve.....

The value of environmental protection has been increasingly recognised in recent years, and people are responding by taking greater initiative to protect the natural world. A visit to the park gave me a mind of how important it is to conserve the green vegetation in the park as well as the world at large. one way that would be planting more flower beds and managing them by watering and weeding. Another method is spraying insecticides at the flower gardens as I discovered some flowers are drying up and leaves falling off due to insect invasion. The unattended areas should also be utilised for trees, grass, and flower plantations.



## Anticipated results of conservation....

In the efforts of conservation, I communicate with the park management to enrol in a volunteering action where I and my friends will help in clearing the ignored area and planting flowers and trees with the guidance of RSPB on the best way to conserve the available birds at the park. With the combined efforts, the park will be as the pictures shared of a well-maintained park.



A well-maintained park((Gardening | Definition, Types, Tools, & Facts | Britannica, n.d.)



## reflection.....

Although the vegetation conservation at the park was affected by the current prolonged lack of rain, the management has put efforts to rectify the situation by employing irrigation on the new flowerbeds. The activity gave me a chance to reflect on the importance of valuing the little things and taking pride in doing my part to protect the environment. Additionally, learning through practice helped me learn how my activities affect other organisms and the ecosystem. Finally, through engaging activities, the program helped me feel more connected to nature and foster a feeling of curiosity and respect for it.

# Reference

- **Gardening | Definition, Types, Tools, & Facts | Britannica. (n.d.). Retrieved May 4, 2023, from <https://www.britannica.com/science/gardening>**